

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES



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Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner Melody A. Currey Transportation Committee Public Hearing March 5, 2014

<u>H.B. No. 5458</u> (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE, VIA INTERNET AUCTION, OF LICENSE PLATES ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

Good morning Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrera, Senator Boucher, Representative Scribner and other members of the Transportation Committee. As the Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner I am here today to testify regarding HB 5458 AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE, VIA INTERNET AUCTION, OF LICENSE PLATES ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. This bill would require DMV to develop a program to allow for the sale of Connecticut license plates through an internet auction.

DMV was required by PA 12-81 to study the feasibility of selling DMV issued license plates through an internet auction system and DMV issued a report dated January 13, 2014 to the Transportation Committee. The comprehensive report provided research and analysis of other states' activities in this area, reviewed DMV's current registration processes and systems and concluded that such a program not be developed. A major reason is because DMV's Modernization Project (CIVLS) is underway and a plate auction program would require substantial funds to alter current programming and significantly delay CIVLS. Additionally, only one other state, Texas, has undertaken a similar type of plate auction system and the sale of such plates has not generated the revenues the state expected.

Thank you for the opportunity to respectfully request this legislation not move forward.